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Violence Against Women Survey

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Violence Against Women Survey

Planning Document

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1. *Introduction*

In February, 1991, the federal government announced an extension of the Family Violence Initiative over a period of four years commencing April, 1991. A total of \$136 million has been allocated across six federal government departments. National Health and Welfare, the lead ministry in this Initiative, has requested the assistance of the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics in the collection of improved information about the extent and nature of family violence and has designated \$3.2 million to the task.

In November, 1990, the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics submitted to National Health and Welfare a proposal for the collection and analysis of national family violence information. A strategy was devised which entails twelve separate but related projects. Within this strategy, a national population survey to gather detailed information about wife assault is prominent. Development of this survey began April, 1991 and will be finalized by the fall of 1992. The survey is scheduled to be conducted in 1993.

A sample of 20,000 women will be interviewed by telephone about their experiences as victims of violence. The primary objective of the survey will be to identify those women who have been victims of violence by intimates and to collect information about their experiences. Secondary objectives will be to collect similar information from women who have been victims of violence by acquaintances and strangers, and to ask questions about women's fear of victimization in the larger community. The content of the survey will be developed in consultation with data users from federal and provincial government departments and other experts such as academics, researchers, and family violence service providers. The survey will be developed jointly by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, the General Social Survey (GSS) group of the Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division, and Social Survey Methods Division within Statistics Canada. The survey will be conducted by the General Social Survey group in conjunction with the 1993 GSS Cycle 8 survey on personal risk.

Note: Following consultations with the above noted groups, the survey was broadened to include violence against women by strangers, dates/boyfriends, acquaintances, current or previous spouses/common-law partners. Questions on perceptions of personal safety, measures taken to reduce risk of violent victimization, and sexual harassment were included. As such, the survey was changed from the Wife Assault Survey to the Violence Against Women Survey. In addition, the target population was increased to include women 18 years of age or older, and the sample size was reduced to 12,300.

2. Objectives and Data Requirements

2.1 Objectives

The primary objective of this survey is to address the need for improved information on family violence by providing reliable estimates of the nature and extent of wife assault in Canada. Secondary objectives will be to provide data on violent victimization of women by non-intimates and women's fear of victimization in the larger community.

Underlying these objectives is the need to:

- a) provide governments and service providers with accurate information about wife assault victims and offenders to ensure appropriate allocation of resources;
- b) examine links between violence against women generally, women's fear of victimization, and wife assault; and,
- c) inform the development of appropriate policies and legislation designed to assist victims of wife assault and address issues related to women's fear.

2.2 Implications for Survey Design

In view of the budget available and the relative costs of telephone and face-to-face interviewing, this survey will be conducted by telephone. This will allow for a sample size of 20,000 women, which is approximately double the number possible using face-to-face interviewing.

The development of feasible data requirements which meet the global objectives must take realistic account of the constraints which apply to surveying women, and specifically victims of family violence, over the telephone in a household setting. The need for detailed information has been identified in a number of areas. However, limiting factors such as respondent burden, the sensitivity of the information being sought, the difficulty of responding to questions while the abuser is present in the home, and the budget, all will bear on the design of the survey. In particular, the following are important considerations:

- i) A subpopulation of the survey sample consists of women who presently live, or who have been living, in extremely stressful situations. While many victims of wife assault successfully go on to abuse-free living, research suggests that many victims identified in this survey likely will be living with the abuser, will be single parents coping with the consequence of the abuse, or will continue to be

victims of threatened abuse from an estranged spouse. In order to elicit participation and secure an acceptable completion rate, the burden on these respondents must be kept to a minimum. The length of the interview and the content will have a direct impact on the response rate.

- ii) Research has shown that many victims do not reveal the abuse to outsiders for a variety of reasons including shame, embarrassment or lack of appropriate resources in the community. There is little evidence as to what motivates victims to respond to sensitive questions about abuse to telephone interviewers. However, there is some evidence that well trained interviewers and carefully chosen questions can have an effect on the response rate. The challenge will be to develop reliable and valid measures of wife assault within a context of sensitivity and respect for respondents.
- iii) A significant proportion of abused women do not take measures to leave an abusive spouse or otherwise seek help until the violence becomes recurring and life-threatening. Interviewers must be trained to be sensitive to cues from respondents that they are at risk of being overheard and to arrange a convenient time to call back.
- iv) The length of the interview and the sample size will be constrained by the budget for this survey. The budget available allows for a sample size of 20,000 within an average interviewing time of 20 minutes. Information requirements must be established carefully with realistic expectations of output with this sample size, and with an appreciation of the limitations imposed by this timeframe.

2.3 Data Requirements and Content

The general overall data requirements for this survey are to provide national and regional level estimates of the nature and extent of wife assault for such breakdowns of the population as age, personal and household income, number of children, and marital status. Specific data requirements will be determined through consultation with federal and provincial government representatives during the fall and winter of 1991 - 92. Content will be finalized with the assistance of such experts as academics, researchers, and family violence service providers.

The following modules are being considered for core content:

- i) *fear for personal safety* - as the introductory questions to the survey, this section would sensitize respondents to the subject matter and set the tone for questions about violence. Fear would be measured within the context of being alone after dark (in a number of situations), identifying the fear, assessment of personal risk, and avoidance and precautionary behaviours.

- ii) *physical and sexual victimization by non-intimates* - would include threatened, attempted or completed physical assault (past year or ever), sexual harassment, sexual assault, details of incidents (offender, location, police involvement, consequences).
- iii) *physical and sexual victimization by intimates* - a variation of the Conflict Tactics Scales (CTS) would be used to measure the incidence of wife assault in the general population. The CTS is a 19 item scale which deals with conflict in intimate relationships; items range from peaceful discussion to violent assault with a weapon. Supplementary questions would be used to provide context to these interactions.
- iv) *consequences of abuse* - physical, emotional, psychological, financial; did the victim require medical care, counselling, welfare or other social assistance.
- v) *awareness and use of services in the community* - counselling services, crisis lines and emergency housing services for victims.
- vi) *involvement with the criminal justice system* - did the victim call the police, police response, did case proceed to court, court outcome, expectations of the criminal justice system.
- vii) *background questions about victims* - age, marital history, occupation, employment status, education, ethnicity, income (personal and household).
- viii) *background questions about offenders* - age, marital history, occupation, employment status, education, ethnicity, income (personal and household), history of violence in other situations.

A number of general issues related to content have been identified and include the following:

- i) *estimates of the extent of abuse* - should the emphasis be on incidence over the course of one year, five years, or lifetime prevalence? On incidence rates or percentage of the population victimized? How will series incidents be measured? These issues have implications for data collection methodology and the use of multiple or single incident reports.
- ii) *qualitative questions* - there is evidence that closed questions designed to measure wife assault quantitatively do not describe these incidents adequately and that open-ended qualitative questions are required to provide context to the statistical information. Disadvantages to qualitative questions relate to the costs associated with coding responses. The feasibility of including a limited number of qualitative

questions for a sample of respondents will be explored.

- iii) *defining wife assault* - definitions of wife assault in the academic literature vary from physical violence to incidents of sexual violence, intimidation, threats, emotional and psychological abuse, and financial abuse. The "official" definition given wife assault in this survey must be consistent with legal definitions, i.e., physical and sexual assault. It must not be so broad so as to invite criticism of the integrity of the survey. However, this does not preclude collecting data on other types of incidents not fitting the legal definition of assault.

Legal and common-law relationships will be included under the definition of wife assault.

2.4 Output Requirements

The output requirements for this survey are:

- i) a master file by March 31, 1994;
- ii) release of survey highlights by March 31, 1994;
- ii) a public use microdata file by April 30, 1994; and,
- iii) an overview publication by December 31, 1994.

3. *Data Collection Methodology*

3.1 Target Population

The population of interest for this survey is all women aged 18 to 64 in the non-institutionalized population of the ten provinces. The selection of this population offers the advantages of minimizing the cost of selection and enriching the sample by restricting it to a certain extent to persons at risk of wife assault. Younger women (15-17) will be excluded because of their limited experience with intimate relationships. In the case of elderly women, the methodology, sample frame and content of this survey are considered to be inappropriate. Other forums for measuring elder abuse will be investigated.

3.2 Sample Design

3.2.1 Provincial Allocation

The allocation of sample that is best suited to the production of estimates at the Canada level is generally not well suited to their production at the provincial or regional level. For this reason, an allocation must be chosen that is neither optimal at the national level nor at the provincial level but which chooses a middle ground and balances the need for both national and provincial estimates. There are many schemes that could be used to find a balance; they all aim to ensure that the sample sizes in the smaller provinces are adequate. This tends to minimally compromise the ability to produce precise estimates at the Canada level and for the larger provinces while improving significantly the ability to produce estimates for the smaller provinces.

The General Social Survey uses the square-root allocation. In this allocation, the sample size of the province is proportional to the square root of the population. The following table illustrates the approximate provincial sample sizes for an allocation of a sample of 20,000 using this scheme:

Province	Sample
Nfld	1,086
PEI	510
NS	1,356
NB	1,222
Que	3,782
Ont	4,414
Man	1,486
Sask	1,436
Alb	2,216
BC	2,492
Canada	20,000

3.2.2 Sample Sizes

The determination of the adequacy of a sample allocation for a specific geographic area or other subgroup of the population (in terms of ability to provide statistically reliable estimates) depends on a number of factors. Some of the technical considerations in this determination are the size of the smallest subgroup whose size one wants to measure, the level of precision with which one wants to measure it, and the way the distribution of the characteristic interacts with the design of the survey. (The population size can generally be ignored unless the sample makes up more than 5% of the population.) The smallest subgroup is specified as a percentage of the population and the level of precision required as a coefficient of variation (**cv**).

There is no obvious choice for the size of the smallest subgroup of interest. However, the larger the sample the greater the ability to achieve a small releasable estimate. One should also keep in mind that the larger the sample, the smaller the gain to be had by adding to the sample. For example, if the sample size is 225, the smallest estimate possible will be about 20%; if we add 100 to the sample, the smallest estimate will now be about 14%; if we now add another 100, the smallest estimate is reduced to about 11%. The first extra 100 "buys" twice as many percentage points as the second (six versus three).

Estimates with high **cv**'s are too imprecise to depend on as the basis for analysis or decision making and as such are not released. The precision criteria for release used by the General Social Survey are as follows: estimates with **cv**'s below 17% are releasable without qualification; those with **cv**'s between 17% and 33% are releasable with qualification; and, those with **cv**'s over 33% are not releasable. The **cv** of an estimate depends on a number of factors one of which is the number of observations upon which it is based (more observations lead to lower **cv**'s). Thus, since smaller estimates are based on fewer observations, they will have higher **cv**'s.

Given the critical **cv** of 17% and the proposed Random Digit Dialing (RDD) survey design, the selection of an appropriate sample size can be made relatively simple in the following way: it is necessary to ensure that the sample will contain at least 45 respondents from the smallest group for which an estimate is required. For example, if the smallest subgroup of interest makes up about 4% of the population, then the sample size needs to be about 1125 (i.e., $45 \div 4\%$). (Estimates based on between 25 and 45 respondents are likely to be releasable with qualification.)

The effect on the size of the smallest releasable estimate (i.e., with a sufficiently small **cv**) of increasing the sample sizes in each province can be estimated. Tables contained in *Appendix A* illustrate provincial breakdowns for this type of survey and a **cv** cutoff of 17%. They show, for the basic sample using the square root allocation and for a number of augmented samples, the minimum releasable estimates expressed as a number and as

a percentage of women aged 18-64.

Auxiliary information about the variables of interest available from other sources may be helpful in optimizing the allocation. In this case, the most obvious choice for such information are rates of victimization and abuse for different geographic areas. However, the available data of this sort are believed to reflect regional variation in definitions, procedures and rates of reporting as much as they do the underlying rates of victimization and are thus not felt to be useful in the determination of the allocation.

3.2.3 Age Allocation

While it is possible to oversample some age groups, with the proposed Random Digit Dialing survey design there are significant cost increases associated with this procedure. Oversampling increases costs due to increases in the number of calls required or length of screening time required, and may produce higher non-response rates.

The difficulty in oversampling age groups relates to the fact that only rarely would households contain potential respondents in more than one age group. It is expected that approximately 77% of the contacted households will contain at least one female aged 18-64 and that 85% of these will contain only one eligible person. Thus, there will be two or more eligible persons in only about 10% of the households contacted and rarely will there be the option of selecting a respondent from a group of special interest in preference to another eligible household member. Consequently, to achieve the desired oversampling of some age groups, sample sizes would have to be established for each age group and households containing only eligible persons from age groups whose sample sizes had been reached would be rejected. The cost of each of these rejected households would be between 20% and 35% of the cost of a completed interview.

The following table illustrates the expected distribution of females 18 to 64 years of age in the sample, along with the minimum releasable estimate (mre) expressed as a percentage, by province and age group. Assuming a victimization rate of 10%, a minimum sample of 450 for any one subgroup is required to produce releasable estimates.

Province	18-24	25-44	45-64	Total
Nfld mre (%)	221 20.4	570 7.9	295 15.3	1,086
PEI mre (%)	83 54.2	275 16.3	152 29.6	510
NS mre (%)	224 20.1	717 6.3	415 10.8	1,356
NB mre (%)	208 21.6	652 6.9	362 12.4	1,222
Que mre (%)	548 8.2	2,001 2.2	1,233 3.6	3,782
Ont mre (%)	686 6.6	2,340 1.9	1,388 3.2	4,414
Man mre (%)	240 18.8	785 5.7	461 9.8	1,486
Sask mre (%)	234 19.2	755 6.0	447 10.1	1,436
Alb mre (%)	371 12.1	1238 3.6	607 7.4	2,216
BC mre (%)	374 12.0	1327 3.4	791 5.7	2,492
Canada mre (%)	3,189 1.4	10,660 .4	6,151 .7	20,000

3.3 Data Collection Methodology

Due to cost constraints, respondents to this survey will be contacted and interviewed by telephone using Random Digit Dialing Techniques. Advantages to this methodology include: (i) all households with telephones have an equal probability of being contacted; (ii) the need for directories is eliminated and, (iii) response rates are comparable to the more costly method of personal interviewing. Rates of telephone ownership are very high nationally (97.6% of all households) and in all ten provinces where rates range from a low of 95.5% in Prince Edward Island to a high of 99.2% in Ontario (Household Facilities Survey, 1989). Telephone coverage is uniformly high for the majority of households; however, this varies by income and other socio-demographic variables. For example, low income persons under 65 years of age who are living alone have rates of telephone ownership significantly lower than the national average (86.7%).

Households and individuals without telephones will be included in the formulae used for weighting the sample to provide estimates of the general population. Consequently, the final estimates will be biased to the extent that the subpopulation without telephones differs from those with telephone access.

4. "Buy-ons" of Sample and Content

The base sample size for this survey will be 20,000 adult women between the ages of 18 and 64. Additional sample can be added for a province or other jurisdiction on a cost recovery basis at an estimated cost of \$75 per interview. Any allocation is possible, provided the geographic areas have a reasonable correspondence to Census definitions (for weighting purposes) and to telephone exchange definitions (to avoid a costly selection process). The final date for considering additional sample is April 1, 1992. The impact of adding sample on the releasability of estimates is indicated in *Appendix A*.

Consideration can also be given to the addition of special topic modules to address issues of particular concern to one or more data users. Interest in this option will be addressed and cost assessed on an individual basis. The final date for considering the addition of special modules is April, 1992, to allow for adequate testing.

5. Operational Issues

5.1 Data Collection

The average length of time allotted for each interview within the budget and sample frame of this survey is 20 minutes, in addition to 3 to 4 minutes required to select the respondent. The possibility of using a CATI (computer assisted telephone interviewing) system will be investigated.

Interviews will begin in January, 1993 and will be conducted throughout the calendar year. This practice minimizes the number of trained interviewers required, reduces "burn-out" and is expected to yield improved data quality. Interviewers will be selected on the basis of their experience and sensitivity toward the subject matter and will receive specialized training. Interviewer training will be developed based on the experience of other surveys dealing with sensitive content (for example, the Ontario Mental Health Supplement).

5.2 Testing Requirements

The nature of the subject matter and data requirements require that thorough testing be conducted of both content and procedures. Initial content testing will consist of a number of one-on-one in-depth interviews, or perhaps small focus groups, that will include administration of test questions (preferably by telephone) followed by a debriefing to discuss the questions. This would permit an evaluation of questionnaire content including the clarity of wording, the flow of questions and the identification of potentially offensive questions. Such an approach will be used to develop modules of the questionnaire over the period September 1991 - March 1992.

The questionnaire will also be reviewed by the interviewers who will conduct the survey. This will allow a review of the wording and flow of questions, including the translated versions, from the point of view of the interviewers.

A full field test of the questionnaire will be carried out during the summer of 1992. The size and location of this test is yet to be determined.

5.3 Data Processing

The data from the survey will be subject to extensive editing to ensure consistency of information. In general, missing information will be assigned non-response codes or corrected from other information on the questionnaire. With the exception of variables that will be required for weighting, missing data will not be imputed. Sample data will be weighted to provide estimates for the total target population. Where possible, editing will be done at the stage of data capture, although more extensive editing will be required after all data have been captured.

5.4 Data Dissemination

The primary output from the survey will be a public use microdata file. The contents of the file must be carefully reviewed to ensure that it does not contain information through which an individual can be identified. This will require collapsing or aggregating certain variables. The most problematic variables to data confidentiality are geographic identifiers; the level of characteristic detail made available is inversely related to the level of geographic detail provided, i.e., detail may have to be sacrificed for smaller jurisdictions.

While certain more detailed analyses will not be possible from the public use microdata file, Statistics Canada will retain a master file from which it will be possible to respond to requests for specific tabulations. The release of data from this survey is expected before March 31, 1994. A public use microdata file will be available by April 30, 1994.

6. *Relationship to General Social Survey*

The General Social Survey (GSS) is an annual survey program that covers a series of five core topics on a rotating basis. A prime objective of the GSS is to monitor changes in social conditions over time and each topic is covered every five years. The base sample size for the GSS is 10,000, covering the non-institutional population 15 years of age and over in the ten provinces. The survey is conducted by telephone using the Random Digit Dialing method. Interviews last an average of 30 minutes.

The focus of Cycle 3 of the GSS is personal risk of criminal victimization and accidents. This topic was first covered in 1988 when respondents were asked about criminal victimizations and accidents that they had experienced during the calendar year 1987, consequences in terms of activity restriction, medical attention and financial loss, perceptions of personal risk, and precautions taken to prevent these events. Data concerning socio-demographic and life-style measures were also collected.

The GSS provides an overview of victimization in Canada and compliments data collected by the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey; however, the scope and sample size of the survey do not allow for in-depth analyses of any one type of victimization. The Wife Assault Survey will provide more detailed information on this topic.

Although the GSS and the Wife Assault Survey will have separate samples, both will be conducted during 1993 and the development of content for both surveys will be closely integrated. This will allow the contents of the surveys to be complimentary whenever possible. For example, some topics not able to be covered by the Wife Assault Survey may be covered, albeit in less detail, by the GSS. Since the GSS will cover both males and females aged 15 and over, certain modules (for example, those concerning attitudes and perceptions) might be common to both surveys. Furthermore, it is clear that topics related to family violence were poorly measured in the 1988 GSS. An attempt will be made to develop a module for measuring related issues in the GSS Cycle 3 on an ongoing basis.

7. *Committee Structure*

The project team, which will be responsible for the design, content development, implementation, data processing and dissemination related to this survey will be located within Statistics Canada. This team will include representatives from the General Social Survey group (Family, Housing and Social Survey Division), the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Social Survey Methods Division, field operations, and data capture. The activities of the project team will be guided by an advisory committee of managers from Statistics Canada. This committee will meet periodically to approve scheduling, cost estimates and design details and is responsible for ensuring Statistics Canada's credibility and image as Canada's national statistical agency.

Content for this survey will be developed through consultation with federal and provincial government representatives and other experts in the field such as academics, researchers, and family violence service providers. A sub-committee of this group will be struck to have input into the design of the questionnaire throughout the development of this survey.

The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (CCJS) maintains a contractual arrangement with Health and Welfare Canada throughout the completion of this project. The CCJS will be reporting to Health and Welfare directly and will be making progress reports to the Interdepartmental Working Group on Family Violence and the Interdepartmental Steering Committee on Family Violence.

8. *Schedule*

April - Aug 1991

Background work on content

Sept - Dec 1991

Consultation on data requirements

Consultation on content

Modular testing of content

Development of draft questionnaire

Development of interviewers' training

Jan - Mar 1992

Comments on draft questionnaire

Modular testing of content

Development of interviewers' training

April 1992

Finalization of test questionnaire

June - Aug 1992

Field Test

Training of interviewers

Aug - Sept 1992

Development of final questionnaire

Jan - Dec 1993

Training of interviewers

Data collection

March 1994

Release of survey highlights

April 1994

Release of public use microdata file

December 1994

Release of overview publication

Appendix A: Supplementing Provincial Samples

The sample size for making estimates for subgroups of the population within a province should be large enough to ensure that at least 45 respondents in the subgroup are counted in the numerator of the estimate. The following tables show, for the basic sample using the square root allocation and for a number of augmented samples, the minimum releasable estimates expressed as a number and as a percentage of women aged 18-64.

The sample size required can be determining in the following way: suppose a small group for which a size estimate is required consists of those women with a specific education and occupation profile who have been victims of violence. It is known that women with this education and occupation profile make up about 15% of the population and there is evidence that about 10% of the women with this profile are victims of violence. Then the small group of interest makes up about 1.5% of the population (15% X 10%) and a sample size of about 3,000 would be required ($45 \div 1.5\%$). This sample size should be considered the minimum for the estimate of interest and would yield a wide confidence interval (the 95% confidence interval would be expected to be (1% - 2%). If such an interval is deemed to be too wide, a larger sample would be required.

A.1 Newfoundland

Extra Sample	Total Sample	Minimum Releasable Estimate	
		Number of Women in pop.	% of Women in pop.
0	1086	8531	4.44
200	1286	7247	3.77
400	1486	6297	3.28
600	1686	5566	2.90
800	1886	4986	2.60
1000	2086	4515	2.35
1500	2586	3649	1.90
2000	3086	3059	1.59
2500	3586	2632	1.37
3000	4086	2307	1.20
3500	4586	2053	1.07
4000	5086	1848	0.96
4500	5586	1680	0.87

As an example of the use of this table, assume that women who are divorced, separated or widowed are the population of interest. This group makes up about 10% of women in this province. If their rate of victimization were 44%, these victims would make up about 4.4% ($10\% \times 44\%$) of the population. From the table we note that this is the minimum releasable estimate for the basic sample size of 1086; we know that if their rate of victimization were below 44% it would not be releasable. If their true rate of victimization were 16%, the sample size would have to be high enough that 1.6% ($10\% \times 16\%$) would be a releasable estimate. From the table we can see that any sample larger than 3086 would be adequate.

Similarly, women who are university graduates make up 9% of the sample, so only estimates greater than 50% ($4.44\% \div 9\%$) would be releasable for this subpopulation. Looking at the table the other way, if the true rate were 20% the sample would have to be between 2586 and 3086 ($20\% \times 9\% \approx 1.8\%$) to enable the release of an estimate of that rate.

A.2 *Prince Edward Island*

Extra Sample	Total Sample	Minimum Releasable Estimate	
		Number of Women in pop.	% of Women in pop.
0	510	3580	8.95
200	710	2626	6.56
400	910	2069	5.17
600	1110	1703	4.26
800	1310	1446	3.61
1000	1510	1254	3.13
1500	2010	937	2.34
2000	2510	744	1.86
2500	3010	614	1.54
3000	3510	521	1.30
3500	4010	451	1.13
4000	4510	396	0.99
4500	5010	352	0.88

As an example of the use of this table, assume that women who are divorced, separated or widowed are the population of interest. This group makes up about 9% of women in this province. If their rate of victimization were 100%, these victims would make up about 9% ($9\% \times 100\%$) of the population. From the table we note that this is the minimum releasable estimate for the basic sample size of 510; we know that if their rate of victimization were below 100% it would not be releasable. If their true rate of victimization were 24%, the sample size would have to be high enough that 2.2% ($24\% \times 9\%$) would be a releasable estimate. From the table we can see that any sample larger than 2010 would be adequate.

Similarly, women who are university graduates make up 19% of the sample, so only estimates greater than 50% ($8.95\% \div 19\%$) would be releasable for this subpopulation. Looking at the table the other way, if the true rate were 25% the sample would have to be between 910 and 1110 ($25\% \times 19\% \approx 4.8\%$) to enable the release of an estimate of that rate.

A.3 Nova Scotia

Extra Sample	Total Sample	Minimum Releasable Estimate	
		Number of Women in pop.	% of Women in pop.
0	1357	10666	3.59
200	1557	9333	3.14
400	1757	8295	2.79
600	1957	7464	2.51
800	2157	6783	2.28
1000	2357	6215	2.09
1500	2857	5138	1.73
2000	3357	4376	1.47
2500	3857	3810	1.28
3000	4357	3372	1.14
3500	4857	3023	1.02
4000	5357	2739	0.92
4500	5857	2503	0.84

As an example of the use of this table, assume that women who are divorced, separated or widowed are the population of interest. This group makes up about 17% of women in this province. If their rate of victimization were 21%, these victims would make up about 3.6% ($17\% \times 21\%$) of the population. From the table we note that this is the minimum releasable estimate for the basic sample size of 1357; we know that if their rate of victimization were below 21% it would not be releasable. If their true rate of victimization were 16%, the sample size would have to be high enough that 2.7% ($16\% \times 17\%$) would be a releasable estimate. From the table we can see that any sample larger than 1757 would be adequate.

Similarly, women who are university graduates make up 17% of the sample, so only estimates greater than 21% ($3.59\% \div 17\%$) would be releasable for this subpopulation. Looking at the table the other way, if the true rate were 7% the sample would have to be between 3857 and 4357 ($7\% \times 17\% \approx 1.2\%$) to enable the release of an estimate of that rate.

A.4 *New Brunswick*

Extra Sample	Total Sample	Minimum Releasable Estimate	
		Number of Women in pop.	% of Women in pop.
0	1223	9521	3.97
200	1423	8222	3.43
400	1623	7234	3.01
600	1823	6456	2.69
800	2023	5829	2.43
1000	2223	5311	2.21
1500	2723	4345	1.81
2000	3223	3674	1.53
2500	3723	3180	1.33
3000	4223	2802	1.17
3500	4723	2503	1.04
4000	5223	2261	0.94
4500	5723	2061	0.86

As an example of the use of this table, assume that women who are divorced, separated or widowed are the population of interest. This group makes up about 16% of women in this province. If their rate of victimization were 25%, these victims would make up about 4% ($16\% \times 25\%$) of the population. From the table we note that this is the minimum releasable estimate for the basic sample size of 1223; we know that if their rate of victimization were below 25% it would not be releasable. If their true rate of victimization were 12%, the sample size would have to be high enough that 2% ($16\% \times 12\%$) would be a releasable estimate. From the table we can see that any sample larger than 2223 would be adequate.

Similarly, women who are university graduates make up 11% of the sample, so only estimates greater than 36% ($3.97\% \div 11\%$) would be releasable for this subpopulation. Looking at the table the other way, if the true rate were 14% the sample would have to be at least 3223 ($14\% \times 11\% \approx 1.5\%$) to enable the release of an estimate of that rate.

A.5 Quebec

Extra Sample	Total Sample	Minimum Releasable Estimate	
		Number of Women in pop.	% of Women in pop.
0	3782	30914	1.32
200	3982	29378	1.26
400	4182	27988	1.20
600	4382	26723	1.14
800	4582	25567	1.09
1000	4782	24507	1.05
1500	5282	22204	0.95
2000	5782	20296	0.87
2500	6282	18690	0.80
3000	6782	17319	0.74
3500	7282	16134	0.69
4000	7782	15101	0.65
4500	8282	14192	0.61

As an example of the use of this table, assume that women who are divorced, separated or widowed are the population of interest. This group makes up about 19% of women in this province. If their rate of victimization were 7%, these victims would make up about 1.3% ($19\% \times 7\%$) of the population. From the table we note that this is the minimum releasable estimate for the basic sample size of 3782; we know that if their rate of victimization were below 7% it would not be releasable. If their true rate of victimization were 5%, the sample size would have to be high enough that 1% ($5\% \times 19\%$) would be a releasable estimate. From the table we can see that any sample larger than 5282 would be adequate.

Similarly, women who are university graduates make up 14% of the sample, so only estimates greater than 9.5% ($1.32\% \div 14\%$) would be releasable for this subpopulation. Looking at the table the other way, if the true rate were 6% the sample would have to be at least 6282 ($6\% \times 14\% \approx 0.8\%$) to enable the release of an estimate of that rate.

A.6 Ontario

Extra Sample	Total Sample	Minimum Releasable Estimate	
		Number of Women in pop.	% of Women in pop.
0	4414	37734	1.14
200	4614	36114	1.09
400	4814	34627	1.04
600	5014	33258	1.00
800	5214	31992	0.96
1000	5414	30820	0.93
1500	5914	28232	0.85
2000	6414	26045	0.78
2500	6914	24171	0.73
3000	7414	22549	0.68
3500	7914	21130	0.64
4000	8414	19879	0.60
4500	8914	18767	0.56

As an example of the use of this table, assume that women who are divorced, separated or widowed are the population of interest. This group makes up about 16% of women in this province. If their rate of victimization were 7%, these victims would make up about 1.1% ($16\% \times 7\%$) of the population. From the table we note that this is the minimum releasable estimate for the basic sample size of 4414; we know that if their rate of victimization were below 7% it would not be releasable. If their true rate of victimization were 6%, the sample size would have to be high enough that 1% ($6\% \times 16\%$) would be a releasable estimate. From the table we can see that any sample larger than 5014 would be adequate.

Similarly, women who are university graduates make up 15% of the sample, so only estimates greater than 7.5% ($1.14\% \div 15\%$) would be releasable for this subpopulation. Looking at the table the other way, if the true rate were 4% the sample would have to be at least 8414 ($4\% \times 15\% \approx 0.6\%$) to enable the release of an estimate of that rate.

A.7 Manitoba

Extra Sample	Total Sample	Minimum Releasable Estimate	
		Number of Women in pop.	% of Women in pop.
0	1486	11121	3.29
200	1686	9835	2.91
400	1886	8814	2.61
600	2086	7984	2.36
800	2286	7279	2.16
1000	2486	6717	1.99
1500	2986	5603	1.66
2000	3486	4804	1.42
2500	3986	4202	1.24
3000	4486	3734	1.10
3500	4986	3358	0.99
4000	5486	3050	0.90
4500	5986	2793	0.83

As an example of the use of this table, assume that women who are divorced, separated or widowed are the population of interest. This group makes up about 15% of women in this province. If their rate of victimization were 22%, these victims would make up about 3.3% ($15\% \times 22\%$) of the population. From the table we note that this is the minimum releasable estimate for the basic sample size of 1486; we know that if their rate of victimization were below 22% it would not be releasable. If their true rate of victimization were 14%, the sample size would have to be high enough that 2.1% ($14\% \times 15\%$) would be a releasable estimate. From the table we can see that any sample larger than 2286 would be adequate.

Similarly, women who are university graduates make up 12% of the sample, so only estimates greater than 27% ($3.29\% \div 12\%$) would be releasable for this subpopulation. Looking at the table the other way, if the true rate were 9% the sample would have to be at least 4486 ($9\% \times 12\% \approx 1.1\%$) to enable the release of an estimate of that rate.

A.8 Saskatchewan

Extra Sample	Total Sample	Minimum Releasable Estimate	
		Number of Women in pop.	% of Women in pop.
0	1436	10063	3.40
200	1636	8863	2.99
400	1836	7919	2.68
600	2036	7155	2.42
800	2236	6525	2.20
1000	2436	5996	2.03
1500	2936	4984	1.68
2000	3436	4262	1.44
2500	3936	3721	1.26
3000	4436	3300	1.12
3500	4936	2964	1.00
4000	5436	2690	0.91
4500	5936	2461	0.83

As an example of the use of this table, assume that women who are divorced, separated or widowed are the population of interest. This group makes up about 16% of women in this province. If their rate of victimization were 21%, these victims would make up about 3.4% ($16\% \times 21\%$) of the population. From the table we note that this is the minimum releasable estimate for the basic sample size of 1436; we know that if their rate of victimization were below 21% it would not be releasable. If their true rate of victimization were 12%, the sample size would have to be high enough that 2% ($12\% \times 16\%$) would be a releasable estimate. From the table we can see that any sample larger than 2436 would be adequate.

Similarly, women who are university graduates make up 9% of the sample, so only estimates greater than 38% ($3.40\% \div 9\%$) would be releasable for this subpopulation. Looking at the table the other way, if the true rate were 16% the sample would have to be at least 3436 ($16\% \times 9\% \approx 1.4\%$) to enable the release of an estimate of that rate.

A.9 Alberta

Extra Sample	Total Sample	Minimum Releasable Estimate	
		Number of Women in pop.	% of Women in pop.
0	2216	18366	2.23
200	2416	16873	2.05
400	2616	15604	1.90
600	2816	14512	1.77
800	3016	13562	1.65
1000	3216	12729	1.55
1500	3716	11032	1.34
2000	4216	9733	1.18
2500	4716	8707	1.06
3000	5216	7876	0.96
3500	5716	7189	0.87
4000	6216	6611	0.80
4500	6716	6119	0.74

As an example of the use of this table, assume that women who are divorced, separated or widowed are the population of interest. This group makes up about 15% of women in this province. If their rate of victimization were 15%, these victims would make up about 2.2% ($15\% \times 15\%$) of the population. From the table we note that this is the minimum releasable estimate for the basic sample size of 2216; we know that if their rate of victimization were below 15% it would not be releasable. If their true rate of victimization were 10%, the sample size would have to be high enough that 1.5% ($10\% \times 15\%$) would be a releasable estimate. From the table we can see that any sample larger than 3216 would be adequate.

Similarly, women who are university graduates make up 15% of the sample, so only estimates greater than 15% ($2.23\% \div 15\%$) would be releasable for this subpopulation. Looking at the table the other way, if the true rate were 8% the sample would have to be at least 4216 ($8\% \times 15\% \approx 1.2\%$) to enable the release of an estimate of that rate.

A.10 British Columbia

Extra Sample	Total Sample	Minimum Releasable Estimate	
		Number of Women in pop.	% of Women in pop.
0	2492	20821	1.99
200	2692	19299	1.85
400	2892	17984	1.72
600	3092	16836	1.61
800	3292	15826	1.51
1000	3492	14929	1.43
1500	3992	13077	1.25
2000	4492	11632	1.11
2500	4992	10473	1.00
3000	5492	9524	0.91
3500	5992	8732	0.84
4000	6492	8061	0.77
4500	6992	7485	0.72

As an example of the use of this table, assume that women who are divorced, separated or widowed are the population of interest. This group makes up about 19% of women in this province. If their rate of victimization were 10%, these victims would make up about 1.9% ($10\% \times 19\%$) of the population. From the table we note that this is the minimum releasable estimate for the basic sample size of 2492; we know that if their rate of victimization were below 10% it would not be releasable. If their true rate of victimization were 7%, the sample size would have to be high enough that 1.4% ($7\% \times 19\%$) would be a releasable estimate. From the table we can see that any sample larger than 3492 would be adequate.

Similarly, women who are university graduates make up 14% of the sample, so only estimates greater than 14% ($1.99\% \div 14\%$) would be releasable for this subpopulation. Looking at the table the other way, if the true rate were 8% the sample would have to be at least 4492 ($8\% \times 14\% \approx 1.1\%$) to enable the release of an estimate of that rate.

